

**DYNAMIC MODIFICATION OF CLUSTER COMMUNICATION
PARAMETERS IN CLUSTERED COMPUTER SYSTEM**

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Abstract of the Disclosure

10 An apparatus, program product and method support the dynamic modification
of cluster communication parameters through a distributed protocol whereby
individual nodes locally confirm initiation and status information for every node
participating in a parameter modification operation. By doing so, individual nodes are
also able to locally determine the need to undo locally-performed parameter
modifications should any other node be incapable of performing a parameter
modification. Moreover, specifically with respect to cluster communication
parameters such as heartbeat parameters, such parameters may be dynamically
modified by configuring a sending node to send a heartbeat message to a receiving
15 node, with the heartbeat message indicating that a heartbeat parameter is to be
modified. In response to the heartbeat message, the receiving node may then send an
acknowledgment message to the sending node that indicates whether the heartbeat
parameter has been modified in the receiving node. Further, modification of the
heartbeat parameter in the sending node may be deferred until the acknowledgment
20 message from the receiving node indicates that the heartbeat parameter has been
modified in the receiving node.